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RURAL DISTRICT COUNCIL OF CHORLEY

ANNUAL REPORT OF THE MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH FOR THE YEAR 1949

PUBLIC HEALTH DEPARTMENT STAFF

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH	Dr. JOHN RIGBY, M.B., Ch.B., D.P.H.
CHIEF SANITARY INSPECTOR	R.H. GRAYSON, Cert.R.S.I. & S.I.E.J.B.
ADDITIONAL SANITARY INSPECTOR	R. POTTS, Cert.R.S.I. & S.I.E.J.B.
ADDITIONAL SANITARY INSPECTOR	H. BAXENDALE, Cert.R.S.I. & S.I.E.J.B. (until 31st July, 1949).
ADDITIONAL SANITARY INSPECTOR	F.C. RYDING, Cert.R.S.I. & S.I.E.J.B. (commenced 17th Dec. 1949).

In addition the Department has a full-time clerk (female).

A Rodent Officer/Operative (part-time) is also employed.

Outside Staff is engaged on Scavenging.

RURAL DISTRICT COUNCIL OF CHORLEY

PUBLIC HEALTH DEPARTMENT,
COUNCIL OFFICES,
GILLIBRAND STREET,
CHORLEY, LANCS.

September, 1950.

ANNUAL REPORT OF THE MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH
FOR THE YEAR 1949

To The Chairman and Members of the Council.

Gentlemen,

I present herewith my Report for the Year 1949.

A year ago I mentioned at the commencement of my report the fact that the National Health Service Act, the National Health Insurance Act, and the National Assistance Act, had come into operation during the year. 1949 was, therefore, the first full year in which the Acts had operated.

I refer again to one or two of the matters mentioned a year ago.

The Ambulance Service, which in this area has operated from its original station, has, I think, provided an excellent service.

The work of Diphtheria Immunisation still goes on although I am not in a position to give any figures as we do not receive the notifications nor provide the remuneration to the general practitioners for work done.

The Domestic Help Service which was originally operated by this Council on behalf of the County Council and was later closed down, is now operating again in the area. The scheme was previously discontinued because there were insufficient calls to justify it and it is hoped that this time the scheme will flourish.

AREA:

No changes have taken place and the Rural District comprises twenty parishes covering 41,111 acres, encircling the Municipal Borough of Chorley.

Whilst agriculture predominates in most of these twenty parishes, there is no lack of variety in the area.

Cotton has long been established and there are 13 mills operating in the District at the present time.

Mining is another industry finding employment for considerable numbers of persons which has been carried out in the area for a long time and at the present time three collieries are working.

In addition to agriculture, cotton and mining, which employ a large part of the workers in the area, we have many other smaller industries.

The Royal Ordnance Factory, part of which is now devolved to the manufacture of ordinary goods, also employs a considerable number of people.

Brickmaking is carried on in three parishes.

Basket making is carried on in Mawdesley.

It is also still possible to find a few people carrying on the craft of the blacksmith and the wheelwright, I use these words because of the few remaining people engaged in a business that once must have flourished.

AREA: (Contd).

The District possesses its share of Filling Stations and motor repair shops which cater for, in addition to cars and trucks, the tractors which have, to a large extent, replaced the horse.

Numbers of people also, as it must be in most places, seek employment outside the area and travel to and from work, in the same way that many must be employed in the District who actually reside outside it.

POPULATION:

The estimated population (Registrar-General's figure) for mid-1949 is 27,360, which is the highest on record.

The following figures giving the populations since 1942 show the variation:-

1942	1943	1944	1945	1946	1947	1948	1949
25,900	24,970	25,540	24,420	25,430	26,150	26,940	27,360.

The variation in the above figures is probably accounted for by the movement of persons in and out of the Hostel in the parish of Euxton.

The Census figure for 1931 was 23,633.

INHABITED HOUSES:

The estimated number of inhabited houses at the end of the year was 7,867.

The only unoccupied houses in the District are derelict.

RATEABLE VALUE:

The Rateable Value of the District is £175,629 and the sum represented by a Penny Rate is £703.

LABORATORY SERVICES:

The system is little changed, swabs are examined at General Hospitals serving this area and results are obtained quickly.

STATISTICS:

BIRTH RATE:

Live Births	Total	Males	Females
Legitimate	423	221	202
Illegitimate	11	7	4
Totals	434	228	206

Birth-rate per 1,000 estimated civilian population mid-1949 - 15.9
Birth-rate per 1,000 civilian population for England and Wales - 16.7

Stillbirths	Total	Males	Females
Totals	8	4	4

The rate per 1,000 total (live and still births) - 18.0
The rate per 1,000 civilian population for England and Wales (Stillbirths) - 0.39

STATISTICS: (Contd).

DEATH RATE:

	Total	Males	Females
Deaths	325	173	152

Death-rate per 1,000 estimated civilian population mid-1949 - 12.5

Death-rate per 1,000 civilian population for England and Wales - 11.7

INFANTILE DEATHS:

The Death-rate of infants under one year of age per 1,000 live births is 32.

MATERNAL DEATHS:

There were no maternal deaths during the year.

The following tables give figures for the past 8 years for the purpose of comparison:-

YEAR	LIVE BIRTH RATE		STILLBIRTHS RATE	DEATH RATE		INFANTILE DEATHS	MATERNAL DEATHS
	Chorley R. D.	England and Wales	Chorley R. D. (per 1,000 live and still births)	Chorley R. D.	England and Wales	Chorley R. D. (per 1,000 live births)	Chorley R. D.
1942	15.8	15.8	50.0	11.0	11.6	43	2
1943	18.3	16.5	38.0	12.0	12.1	52	2
1944	19.3	17.6	33.5	11.6	11.6	33	2
1945	15.2	16.1	42.0	11.9	11.4	50	-
1946	18.2	19.1	27.0	10.5	11.5	36	1
1947	20.4	20.5	27.0	12.3	12.0	50	-
1948	18.1	17.9	25.0	10.4	10.8	32	-
1949	15.9	16.7	18.0	12.5	11.7	32	-

YEAR	DEATHS FROM			
	CANCER (all ages)	MEASLES (all ages)	WHOOPING COUGH (all ages)	DIARRHOEA (under 2 years of age)
1942	43	-	2	3
1943	32	-	-	1
1944	51	-	-	1
1945	42	-	1	-
1946	38	-	-	-
1947	42	-	2	3
1948	45	-	-	2
1949	27	-	1	1

INFECTIOUS DISEASES:

The Heath Charnock Isolation Hospital provides accommodation for all infectious cases.

The total number of cases notified during 1949 was 630, an increase of 213 on last year, in fact, the highest number since 1942 when there were 832 notifications.

Reference to pages 5 and 7 which give the details of the notifications for 1949 and the totals since 1942, show that the increase is accounted for by the large number of Measles cases notified, no less than 402, an increase of 224 on 1948, and again the highest since 1940 when 530 cases were notified.

Scarlet Fever cases were 68 less than last year.

There was only one case of Diphtheria and, unfortunately, the child died.

Page 6 gives the parishes in which the notifiable diseases have occurred during the year.

DISINFECTION OF PREMISES:

Terminal Disinfection is not carried out after measles and whooping cough, so that, although there is an increase in the total number of infectious diseases notified, the disinfections carried out are less than 1948.

Actually 106 private premises were disinfected, in addition to this number, disinfections were carried out at 3 schools.

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CASES OF INFECTIOUS DISEASES (other than Tuberculosis) NOTIFIED DURING THE YEAR 1949

NOTIFIABLE DISEASES	TOTAL CASES NOTIFIED											Total Deaths	Hospital	
	Total cases at all ages	AGE PERIODS - YEARS											Total cases removed to hospital from the District	Deaths in hospital of persons belonging to the district.
		0-	1-	3-	5-	10-	15-	25-	45-	65 & over	Age unknown			
Smallpox	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Scarlet fever	104	1	6	14	53	22	3	5	-	-	-	-	88	-
Diphtheria (incl. membranous croup)	1	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	1	1
Enteric or typhoid fever (excl. paratyphoid)	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Paratyphoid fever	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Measles (excl. rubella)	402	14	108	109	154	9	2	5	-	-	2	-	-	-
Whooping cough	63	8	18	15	22	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-
Acute pneumonia (primary and influenzal)	54	10	-	-	11	-	18	-	11	4	-	11	-	-
Puerperal pyrexia	1	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Cerebro-spinal fever	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Acute poliomyelitis	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Acute polio-encephalitis	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Acute encephalitis lethargica	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Dysentery	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-
Ophthalmia neonatorum	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Erysipelas	4	-	-	-	-	-	3	-	1	-	-	-	1	-
Malaria (Contracted In England & Wales)-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
(Abroad)	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Food Poisoning	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Any other disease	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Totals	630	33	132	138	240	31	27	10	13	4	2	13	90	1

CASES OF INFECTIOUS DISEASES (other than Tuberculosis) NOTIFIED DURING THE YEAR, 1949, FROM THE VARIOUS TOWNSHIPS

TOWNSHIP	ACUTE POLIOMYELITIS	DIPHTHERIA	ENCEPHALITIS	ERYSIPELAS	MEASLES	PUERPERAL PYREXIA	SCARLET FEVER	WHOOPING COUGH	TOTAL
Anderton	1	-	-	-	8	-	1	-	10
Anglezarke	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	1
Bretherton	1	-	-	-	2	-	1	-	4
Brindle	6	-	-	-	15	-	-	6	27
Charnock Richard	-	-	-	1	19	-	2	8	30
Clayton-le-Woods	4	-	-	-	3	-	10	5	22
Coppull	4	-	1	1	180	-	25	11	222
Croston	-	-	-	-	20	-	14	-	34
Cuerden	-	-	-	-	9	-	3	3	15
Eccleston	-	-	-	-	8	-	4	-	12
Euxton	2	1	-	-	34	-	20	-	57
Heapey	-	-	-	-	6	-	1	-	7
Heath Charnock	1	-	-	-	6	1	8	1	18
Heskin	-	-	-	-	12	-	3	-	15
Hoghton	-	-	-	-	29	-	-	11	40
Mawdesley	-	-	-	-	6	-	2	-	8
Rivington	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Ulnes Walton	-	-	-	-	8	-	-	1	9
Wheelton	4	-	-	-	9	-	-	1	14
Whittle-le-Woods	31	-	-	1	28	-	10	15	85
Totals	54	1	1	4	402	1	104	63	630

TABLE OF INFECTIOUS DISEASES (other than Tuberculosis) NOTIFIED DURING THE PAST 8 YEARS

NOTIFIABLE DISEASES	YEAR							
	1949	1948	1947	1946	1945	1944	1943	1942
Smallpox	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Scarlet fever	10[illegible]	1[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	55	69	74	90
Diphtheria (including membraneous croup)	1	2	6	6	24	13	31	47
Enteric or typhoid fever (excluding paratyphoid)	-	-	-	-	-	1	1	2
Paratyphoid fever	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Measles (excluding rubella)	102	178	252	40	277	84	306	140
Whooping cough	63	49	125	16	56	94	50	64
Acute pneumonia (Primary and influenzal)	54	13	21	11	14	19	34	16
Puerperal pyrexia	1	1	-	-	-	-	1	2
Cerebro-spinal fever	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	7
Acute poliomyelitis	-	-	10	-	-	-	-	-
Acute polio-encephalitis	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Acute encephalitis lethargica	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Dysentery	1	-	-	49	-	-	1	-
Ophthalmia neonatorum	-	1	-	-	1	4	1	3
Erysipelas	4	1	2	6	6	8	6	6
Malaria — Contracted - In England and Wales	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Malaria — Abroad	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Food poisoning	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Any other diseases	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Totals	63[illegible]	[illegible]	457	177	435	290	507	367

T U B E R C U L O S I S

NEW CASES AND MORTALITY DURING 1949

Age Periods	NEW CASES				DEATHS			
	Respiratory		Non-Respiratory		Respiratory		Non-Respiratory	
	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.
Years.								
0-	-	-	1	-	-	-	1	-
1-	-	-	1	-	-	-	1	-
2-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-
5-	-	1	2	5	-	-	-	-
10-	-	1	-	1	-	1	-	-
15-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-
20-	1	1	1	1	-	-	-	-
25-	1	3	-	1	-	-	-	-
35-	4	-	-	1	1	-	-	1
45-	2	1	-	-	3	-	-	-
55-	2	-	-	-	1	-	-	-
65-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-
75 & upwards	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Totals	10	7	5	10	6	1	3	1
	17		15		7		4	

TUBERCULOSIS

NEW CASES AND MORTALITY DURING THE PAST 8 YEARS

Age Periods	1949		1948		1947		1946		1945		1944		1943		1942	
	New Cases	Deaths	New Cases	Deaths	New Cases	Deaths	New Cases	Deaths	New Cases	Deaths	New Cases	Deaths	New Cases	Deaths	New Cases	Deaths
Years.																
0-	1	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
1-	1	2	1	-	4	-	2	-	1	-	-	-	3	-	1	-
5-	8	-	2	-	4	1	5	1	7	-	3	-	6	1	4	-
10-	2	1	1	-	6	-	2	1	2	-	9	-	4	-	1	-
15-	1	-	-	-	3	-	4	2	2	-	2	-	3	-	5	1
20-	4	-	1	-	2	-	5	-	7	1	4	-	6	1	4	1
25-	5	-	4	1	4	1	6	1	6	-	5	1	5	4	8	2
35-	5	2	2	-	4	1	2	2	3	2	3	1	6	1	3	-
45-	3	3	1	-	-	-	3	-	3	2	2	2	4	1	6	2
55-	2	1	1	-	1	-	2	1	-	-	5	1	5	2	-	-
65 & upwards	-	1	1	-	-	-	-	1	2	2	-	-	-	-	1	-
Ages unknown	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	3	-	-	-	-	-	-
Totals	32	11	14	1	28	3	33	9	33	10	32	5	42	10	36	6

SANITARY CIRCUMSTANCES OF THE AREA

WATER SUPPLY:

The whole of the water supplied by the Council through its mains is obtained in bulk from Manchester Corporation and is under constant supervision and examination.

The scheme to improve the supply and to increase the area served in the western part of the District was completed. As a result, many houses now have a supply of water under pressure for the first time.

During the year 41 existing houses and farms were given a supply from the Council's mains and all new houses erected have main supplies, so that now approximately 90% of the houses in your District enjoy an adequate supply of wholesome water under pressure.

The Brindle and Hoghton Scheme was commenced early in the year and considerable progress had been made at the year end. This scheme will replace two private schemes which are no longer capable of providing the water needed, it also provides for mains in parts of the two parishes which were not supplied from the private mains. The private supply was not adequate but the new supply will be and it will be possible for other services to be considered for parts of those parishes once the water scheme is completed, in fact, the improvement of the water supply will mean that more waste water will have to be disposed of and that consideration will have to be given to the proper disposal of it.

SEWERAGE:

EUXTON AND CLAYTON-LE-WOODS:

This scheme for sewering the Lancaster Lane area of Clayton-le-Woods, and the village of Euxton, commenced last year, was more or less completed at the end of 1949. The work was sewerage only, the sewage being conveyed to the Chorley Borough Outfall Works at Common Bank, Chorley, for treatment.

Some of the benefits from this work were very soon plainly visible for anyone to see. In the part of Clayton-le-Woods affected by the scheme considerable development had taken place and the only means of sewage disposal was by the use of small scale septic tanks. The same thing had taken place in several parts of Euxton where we had small scale septic tanks for individual houses, and some dealing with the drainage of up to thirty houses. In addition, there was, in Euxton, a large number of houses, the drainage from which found its way into the natural drainage of the area without any treatment at all, and these properties were denied any form of convenience other than earth closets, so long as those conditions existed. Now the main sewer has been completed and most of the houses connected to it, already the ditches and streams which were previously heavily polluted are being cleansed and glistening clear water is once more flowing in them.

The total number of houses in Euxton which have been connected to the new sewer is 347, and in addition to this, 80 which were on the old system are drained to a collecting point and pumped into the new system, so that the antiquated works on the bank of the River Yarrow in Pincock Street is disused, and has, in fact, been demolished.

In Clayton-le-Woods 85 houses have been drained to the new sewer which flows into the Leyland Urban District Council system for treatment.

CLAYTON-LE-WOODS, HEATLEY, WHELTON and WHITTLE-LE-WOODS: COPPULL, CHENNOX RICHARD, HESKIN, ECCLESTON and CROSTON:

Public Inquiries were held in connection with the above two schemes in 1948, and both have been agreed to in principle by the Ministry. Unfortunately they did not progress further in 1949. I had hoped that one of the schemes would have been commenced as the Euxton one was completed. Every effort must be made to get the work started as early as possible, for although these two

schemes are large and will serve a large part of the District, there will still be plenty to do when they are completed. I refer to some of the smaller villages, many of which must be provided with sewerage and sewage disposal systems in the more populated parts, otherwise a considerable number of people living there will be compelled to carry on with conditions around them which are dangerous and most undesirable. Therefore, once these two major schemes are under way, sewers for part of Bretherton, parts of Heindle and Hoghton, part of Mawdesley, another portion of North Charnock, should be planned.

SANITARY ACCOMMODATION:

Each year I state that there are still large numbers of both pail closets and privy middens in the District; that is true and must be so for some considerable time. However, as was the case in 1948, some considerable time was spent in efforts to get conversions carried out and whilst the numbers are not phenomenal, I think steady progress has been made. I give below a list of the parishes where the conversions have been carried out, and so that a picture of what is taking place can be seen, I give also the total for the war period (1940/45) as a whole, and the totals for the year 1946 - 1949:-

CONVERSIONS CARRIED OUT IN 1949				
Parish	Pails to W.Cs.	Privies to W.Cs.	Privies to Pails.	Totals
Anderton	2	-	-	2
Charnock Richard	-	-	1	1
Clayton-le-Woods	4	1	-	5
Coppull	13	28	-	41
Croston	9	16	-	25
Eccleston	1	5	-	6
Euxton	41	1	5	47
North Charnock	2	-	-	2
Whelton	40	-	-	40
Whittle-le-Woods	8	-	-	8
TOTALS	120	51	6	177

CONVERSIONS CARRIED OUT 1940 - 1949				
Year(s)	Pails to W.Cs.	Privies to W.Cs.	Privies to Pails.	Totals
1940 - 1945	21	50	44	115
1946	25	15	4	44
1947	12	38	21	71
1948	62	51	23	136
1949	120	51	6	177
TOTALS	240 (Water Closets)	205	98 (Pail Closets)	543

The privy middens converted to pail closets were in places where there is no sewer and no likelihood of one for a long time.

SCAVENGING:

The whole of the scavenging in the area is done by direct labour. Ten years ago the whole of the work was done by contract. Some Contractors were most conscientious and did a good job, others were not and the result was that the work was patchy. With the present method the service is more uniform.

The work consists of both wet and dry scavenging and until the numbers of pail closets and privy middens are reduced to places so isolated that sewers are never likely to reach them, this part of the scavenging will continue to interfere with the regularity of the collection of dry refuse.

Large quantities of nightsoil result from those collections and it is disposed of by filtering through straw, lagooning, and mixing with ashes, dust, etc., for ultimate use on the land. It is hoped that when the major sewerage schemes are completed the works will be capable of dealing with this substance when discharged into the sewers at suitable places.

Tipping of refuse is carried out in several places. The control of tips is very difficult and unauthorised persons frequently dispose multifarious wastes on the tips, mostly to our inconvenience, and fires have also caused some concern but have been kept under control.

SALVAGE:

During the year the direction making it compulsory to collect salvage was determined, and as paper became difficult to dispose of, towards the end of the year, collections were reduced. During the year 101 tons. 3 cwts. of mixed waste paper was collected.

FOOD:

Centralised slaughtering operated throughout 1949, so there was no routine inspection of fresh killed meat in the District.

Several owners of Licensed Slaughter-houses have, however, continued to renew their licences and these premises have been used for the slaughter of pigs for self-suppliers of meat.

MILK, DAIRIES AND COWSHEDS:

The Milk and Dairies Regulations, 1949, came into operation on 1st October, 1949. The Regulations re-enact, with amendments, previous regulations.

Under the new regulations the Ministry of Agriculture and Fisheries becomes responsible for the registration of dairy farms and persons carrying on the trade as dairy farmers, and the Local Authority for registration of dairies which are not dairy farms and dairymen who are not dairy farmers. The Local Authority is still responsible, however, for matters relating to diseases communicable to man on dairy farms.

The Milk (Special Designations) Act, 1949, also came into operation on October 1st, 1949, as did also the Milk (Special Designation) (Pasteurised and Sterilised Milk) Regulations, 1949, and the Milk (Special Designation) (Raw Milk) Regulations, 1949.

Under these Regulations licences for pasteurising and sterilising milk are granted by the County Council as the Food and Drugs Authority, but other licences are the responsibility of Local Authorities. Licences to produce Designated Raw Milk are granted by the Ministry of Agriculture and Fisheries but Local Authorities continue to be responsible for licensing dealers who use the special designation.

The Ministry of Agriculture and Fisheries were, as requested in the Regulations, provided with a list of milk producers in this area.

At the end of the year there were 3 persons licensed to use the Special Designation "Pasteurised" and 6 licensed to use the Special Designation "Sterilised".

MILK, DAIRIES AND COWSHEDS: (Contd).

Between 1st October and the end of the year, two cases of milk containing tubercle bacilli were notified. The Regulations provied for the stopping of sale for human consumption or manufacture of products for human consumption of such milk, unless so heated before consumption as to render it safe. In neither case was statutory action necessary, both farmers were eager to co-operate in removing the danger and although it was at some inconvenience to them their milk was all pasteurised and an alternative supply was obtained for their retail businesses through the Milk Marketing Board, both being producers/retailers.

Prior to the new Regulations coming into force 110 inspections of farms and dairy premises had been carried out.

ICE CREAM:

There has been no change in the number of premises registered for the manufacture of ice cream. There is one modern fairly large factory in the District, the remainder of the premises for making this commodity being comparatively small, several very small indeed, making only what they retail themselves. The number of persons hawking ice cream belonging to the District is small, there are, of course, many hawkers from outside who come into the District.

At the end of the year the numbers on the Ice Cream Register were:-

Registered for the Manufacture, Storage and Sale	-	10
Registered for the Storage and Sale only	-	25
Total	-	35

The total number of registered premises at the end of 1948 was 20.

SCHOOLS:

The School Medical Services are administered by the County Council and separate reports are issued.

The completion of the Water Scheme in the Western part of the District made it possible for one of the three schools not enjoying a supply of water from the Council's mains, to be connected up. The Brindle and Hoghton Scheme will, when completed, make it possible for all schools to have mains water.

The position at the end of the year was that,

30 Schools had a piped supply from the Council's mains, and
2 Schools had a supply from private mains.

The progress made with the Euxton Sewerage Scheme made it possible for the sanitary accommodation at the two schools in that parish to be converted to water closets, and whilst only conversion of the existing conveniences was carried out, the improvement which benefits all concerned is notable.

Some progress was also made with regard to conversion of conveniences at the Whittle Council School.

At the end of the year the sanitary accommodation at the schools in the area was:-

13 Schools provided with water closets.
17 Schools provided with pail closets.

RODENT CONTROL:

The Rodent Control Scheme was continued throughout the year.

Again very few complaints were received and although a certain amount of re-inspection of the area was carried out few infestations were found and none of these were serious.

RODENT CONTROL: (Contd).

Council properties, sewers, sewage disposal works and tips, were kept under constant observation and any infestations dealt with.

CAMPING:

Little trouble has been experienced with caravans in this area since the war. There are, however, a few vans in the area which have been there for long periods and some of which are rated. A few vans belonging to persons of the wandering type have found their way into the area each year but have caused little offence and have been kept under control.

In 1949, however, three applications for Licences to Station and Use Vans in the District were made, one of these was granted and two were refused. One was allowed to stay without a licence as a Member of a Club having special concessions.

With regard to the refusals, one was a case of conversion of a bus body for the owner's enjoyment and to the detriment and displeasure of local inhabitants. Refusal was the only action possible and no appeal was made. The second refusal related to the use of a horse-drawn van used by a man and his family, four in all, as permanent accommodation. The granting of a licence in this case was impossible, the van being totally inadequate for the needs of the family and the sanitary arrangements being most unsatisfactory. An Appeal to Court was made and the decision of the Rural District Council was upheld. The van was still on the site at the end of the year.

There were no licences granted in respect of land during the year.

SMOKE ABATEMENT:

In one case only were observations taken during the year, the plant was not in regular use and some difficulty was experienced. No action had been taken up to the end of the year.

HOUSING:

The provision of new houses continued throughout the year as quickly as the general conditions allowed. It is a pity that the number erected was not greater, so that the number of persons in genuine need could have been further reduced, as it is only when there is a sufficiency of houses that it will possible to commence replacing old dwellings which have served their purpose.

During the year 146 new houses were completed, 141 by the Local Authority and 5 by other persons. This brought the total number of new houses (including 50 Temporary Bungalows at Coppull) erected since the war to 399; 373 by the Local Authority and 26 by other persons. In addition to this number 29 dwellings were adapted from buildings on two Military Sites in the District. Whilst the dwellings were well fitted out, the structures left a lot to be desired and arrangements have been made to demolish them as they become vacant. During the year one hut was dealt with in this way.

Further work was carried out on the Housing Survey and it is hoped to complete the work next year by making the inspection and record as simple as possible. A summary of the work carried out is given below:-

CATEGORY		1949	PREVIOUSLY	TOTAL
1	Satisfactory in all respects	83	803	886
2	Minor defects only	115	1,063	1,178
3	Houses needing structural alterations	21	913	934
4	Houses suitable for reconditioning under the Rural Workers Act	-	2	2
5	Houses which should be demolished	44	442	486
	Totals	263	3,223	3,486

HOUSING: (Contd).

During the year it was necessary to deal with two houses under Section 11 of the Housing Act, 1936. The houses were old and worn-out and, in addition, in one case, the house was dangerous. In both cases undertakings were accepted from the owners. One adjoining an old mill is not likely to be used as a house again, and in the other case a list of proposed works to make it fit has been agreed.

SHOPS.

In conjunction with the County Council and the Rural District Council, it was arranged for the Sanitary Inspectors to inspect the shops in the District.

Only a few inspections had been made at the end of 1949 and it was found that the majority of these premises were house shops run by the occupier and his family, and that the number of cases were assistants were employed was not large.

PUBLIC HEALTH ACT:

A considerable amount of work was carried out under the Public Health Act, and out of 233 nuisances discovered, 206 were abated. In many cases these comprise numerous nuisances in individual houses.

233 Informal Notices were served.

More Statutory Notices were served this year than for some time, the number being 9, 4 of which were complied with. One of the Notices complied with was served in 1948, the remainder had not expired at the end of the year.

INSPECTIONS:

The total number of inspections carried out during the year was 2,673.

PETROLEUM REGULATIONS:

[illegible] licences to store Petroleum Spirit were issued during the year.

FACTORIES ACT, 1937 and 1948:

The following Table summarises the work done in connection with factories during the year:-

T A B L E

PART I OF THE ACT

1 - INSPECTIONS for purposes of provisions as to health.

Premises	Number on Register	Number of Inspections	Number of Written Notices	Number of Occupiers Prosecuted
(i) Factories in which Sections 1,2,3,4 and 6 are to be enforced by Local Authorities	12	4	-	-
(ii) Factories not included in (i) in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority	75	27	-	-
(iii) Other Premises in which Sec. 7 is enforced by the Local Authority. (Workers' premises)	11	11	-	-
TOTAL	98	42	-	-

FACTORIES ACTS, 1937 and 1948: (Contd).

T A B L E					
PART I OF THE ACT					
2 - CASES IN WHICH DEFECTS WERE FOUND.					
Particulars	Number of cases in which defects were found				Numbers of cases in which prosecutions were instituted
	Found	Remedied	Referred To H.M. Inspector	Referred By H.M. Inspector	
Want of cleanliness (S.1)	-	-	-	-	-
Overcrowding (S.2)	-	-	-	-	-
Unreasonable temperature (S.3)	-	-	-	-	-
Inadequate ventilation (S.4)	-	-	-	-	-
Ineffective drainage of floors (S.6)	-	-	-	-	-
Sanitary Conveniences (S.7) (a) insufficient	1	1	-	1	-
(b) Unsuitable or defective	4	4	-	4	-
(c) Not separate for sexes	-	-	-	-	-
Other offences against the Act (not including offences relating to Outworkers)	-	-	-	-	-
TOTAL	5	5	-	5	-

I am, Gentlemen,
Your obedient Servant,

Medical Officer of Health.